

West Conshohocken, PA – Congressman Joe Sestak visited Chatten Associates to tour facilities and discuss their impact on the war efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq. For 31 years, Chatten Associates has pioneered research and development in the field of robotics and neurophysiology. Their cutting-edge work has been utilized by a range of commercial and military outlets, including the United States Army, John Deere, and the National Institute of Health.

— “Today, the national defense and health security of our nation is dependent on the ability of our science and technology industry to lead innovation,” said Congressman Joe Sestak. “Chatten’s technological developments are not only saving soldiers’ lives in Iraq and Afghanistan, but are increasingly important to help individuals with epilepsy.”

Recent testing by the U.S. Army testing showed that the Chatten’s Explosive Ordinance Disposal robots double the effectiveness of detecting roadside bombs in Iraq. Their ground-breaking work has helped to save lives and improve the effectiveness of our military effort. Currently, Chatten Associates is working with General Dynamics to adapt their robotic system for night vision and situational awareness on a wide variety of manned military vehicles.

On the medical-neurophysiology side of the company, Chatten Associates has developed a new technology that detects epileptic seizures before they occur. Their research is targeted to convert this technology into a wearable system that will alter people suffering from epilepsy about impending seizures. This technology would allow people suffering from epilepsy to remain seizure-free, without the use of medications that often have very difficult side-effects.

“I thoroughly enjoyed my visit to Chatten Associates, and I applaud the tireless efforts of the Chatten workers who support our military and medical personnel with technology that keeps Americans safe and gives the United States a competitive edge,” said Congressman Sestak.

Congressman Sestak, Vice Chairman of the House Small Business Committee, has been active in promoting legislation to bring economic development that will create new jobs in the District. He has also hosted four business and economic development summits bringing together several hundred people to discuss ways to bring greater economic growth to the District and region. Over the past six years, Delaware County, which makes up 85 percent of the District, has lost 762 businesses, including 22 percent of its manufacturing establishments.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the Congress.